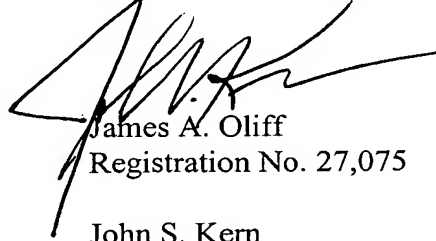


**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract and specification are replaced with an amended Abstract and substitute specification, and claims 1-11 are amended.

Prompt and favorable examination based on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

John S. Kern  
Registration No. 42,719

JAO:JSK/kap

Attachments:

Amended Abstract  
Substitute Specification  
Marked-up copy of Specification

Date: October 4, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
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